PATENT

MST-1997.1-3-2-01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: F.E. Mootz, et al.

Serial No.: -T/B/A-09/626066 : Group Art Unit: 1743

Cup Handling Subsysstem for an Automated Clinical Chemistry Analyzer System

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

P lease enter the following amendments:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, line 6, before "This" insert the following paragraph – This application is a divisional application of U.S. Serial No. 09/099,739, filed June 18, 1998. –

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims \$6 through \$8 and \$0.